

Moray Beekeepers Association

January 2013

News Bulletin

Established 1919
Scottish Charity No: SCO42185

WORKING PARTY AT BIRNIE

There will be a working party at Birnie Apiary on Saturday 12th January starting at 11 am. This is the start of the refurbishment of the apiary under the Bee Aware in Moray project and the first stage is to tidy the grounds, remove the weeds and prepare the floor for paving slabs. There is plenty of work to be done to get it 'shipshape' for the Opening Ceremony on 26th April so if you can spare a couple of hours it will be much appreciated. Please bring garden tools: spades, forks, rakes and garden refuse sacks if you have any and if anyone has a chain saw please bring it as well. If we get a lot done on Saturday we can cancel the Sunday.

A.G.M.

A reminder that the AGM is on Tuesday 29th January 2013, 7pm start at Elgin Library. Graham Torrie from Beecraft will be attending the evening with magazines and beekeeping books for sale so bring cash or your cheque book if you are interested. There will also be a short presentation on the BEAM project so come along and find out what the project means to you!

FOOD HYGIENE COURSE

MBA are running a holding a Food Hygiene course on Saturday 2nd March. It is an all day affair at Birnie and will cost £20 which includes all course reading material, lunch and a certificate. Numbers are limited so if you want to attend contact Tony Harris asap.

BEEKEEPING LECTURES

A reminder that the 6 week series of Beekeeping Lectures starts on Tuesday 5th February, 7 pm at Elgin Library. If you wish to attend it will cost £10 for the entire course, payable on or before the evening of the first lecture.

IAN CRAIG

Congratulations to SBA past President and Education Convener, Ian Craig who has been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List for services to beekeeping.

FEBRUARY MEETING THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2013

Alan Riach, the Scottish Beekeepers Association Education Convener will be the speaker at our February meeting at Elgin Library, 7pm start. Alan is an excellent speaker with a passion for microscopy and his talk is entitled, 'An Evening Under the Microscope'. Following his talk you will have an opportunity to look into the microscopic world of the honeybee for yourself. **Please support this event as Alan is traveling from Edinburgh to give the talk.**

BASIC BEEMASTER COURSE

The Basic Beemaster Course will again be run in 2013 and will tie in with Dr Palmers lectures mentioned above. There will then be three practical lessons at Birnie Apiary with the actual assessments usually taking place in June. It is condition of the Scottish Beekeepers Association that applicants must have owned and managed bees for one full season but as the bees at Birnie belong to all the members, if you have been regularly helping out at apiary sessions, then you meet the criteria. Again, to book a place on the course or for further information, contact the Secretary, Tony Harris. Numbers are limited so book early to avoid disappointment! There will be a charge of £15 to MBA.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

2013 is going to be an exciting year for Moray Beekeepers Association as we implement the Bee Aware in Moray project. For it to be successful we need a team of committed volunteers. Beekeeping experience is not important, just a little spare time, enthusiasm and the ability to work as part of a team. We also have several vacancies on the Committee at present so if you would like to join the team, either as a Committee member or a volunteer helper, please contact any member of the Committee or e mail me for further information.

All the best

Tony Harris
Secretary,
Moray Beekeepers Association